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INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE 4365
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 7372
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SUBJECT: VOTING INSTRUCTIONS: GEORGIAN UNGA IDP AND
REFUGEE RESOLUTION

¶1. (U) This is an action message. USUN is authorized to vote in support of UN General Assembly Agenda Item 16 resolution on the "Status of Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees from Abkhazia, Georgia," in para 2 below, which is scheduled for a vote on May 15.

¶2. (U) Begin resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including its resolution 62/153 of 18 December 2007,

Recognizing the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons,

Deeply concerned about violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Abkhazia, Georgia, particularly ethnicity-based violence,

Recalling all relevant Security Council resolutions; noting the conclusions of the Budapest (1994), Lisbon (1996) and Istanbul (1999) summits of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), in particular the reports of "ethnic cleansing" and other serious violations of international humanitarian law in Abkhazia, Georgia,

Deploring practices of arbitrary forced displacement and their negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by large groups of people, deeply concerned by the humanitarian situation created by the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of persons from Abkhazia, Georgia,

Deeply concerned by the demographic changes resulting from the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, and regretting any attempt to alter pre-conflict demographic composition in Abkhazia, Georgia,

Emphasizing that rights of Abkhaz population who live in Abkhazia, Georgia have to be protected and guaranteed,

Recognizes the right of return of all refugees and internally displaced persons and their descendants, regardless of ethnicity, to Abkhazia, Georgia;

Emphasizes the importance of preserving the property rights of refugees and internally displaced persons from Abkhazia, Georgia including victims of reported "ethnic cleansing" and calls upon all member states to deter persons under their jurisdiction from obtaining property within the territory of Abkhazia, Georgia in violation of

the rights of returnees;

Underlines the urgent need for rapid development of a timetable to ensure the prompt voluntary return of all refugees and internally displaced persons, to their homes in Abkhazia, Georgia;

Requests the Secretary General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution,

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its Sixty-Third session the item entitled "Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for the international peace, security and development".

End resolution.

RICE